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563 to conſiſt in this, that the Coſſacks live in houſes, and the natives in huts under ground; the Coſſacks uſually eat their fiſh boiled, and the natives moſtly dry; beſides, the Coſſacks dreſs their's ſeveral ways different from the natives. As it is impoſſible for people to live there without the help of women, who are ſo neceſſary in many parts of their work, ſuch as cleaning their fiſh, drying their roots, ſpinning and making their ſhirts and cloaths, and as the Coſſacks firſt ſettled in *Kamtſchatka* without their wives, whom upon account of the difficulty of the journey they could not tranſport thither, I ſhall now relate what methods they uſed to make up for this deficiency.

144 563 177 567 One may eaſily imagine, that the Coſſacks did not reduce theſe people without uſing force; and in theſe wars they took priſoners many women and children as well as men, and obliged them to perform all the labour. The care of overlooking theſe ſervants was entruſted to ſuch as they made their concubines, whom they frequently married if they had any children by them; and ſometimes the natives offered them their daughters, whom they promiſed to marry as ſoon as the prieſt arrived: ſo that it ſometimes happened that the Coſſacks had a marriage and chriſtening at the ſame time; for then there was but one prieſt in all *Kamtſchatka*, who lived in the lower fort, and once in a year, or once in two years, viſited the other ſettlements.

563 567 The Coſſacks, a people rude enough themſelves, ſeemed to be pretty well pleaſed with the manner of living here, uſing the natives as their ſlaves, who furniſhed them with ſables and other furrs in abundance, and paſſing the greateſt part of their time in playing at cards: their only want ſeemed to be that of brandy. Before there were any brandy ſhops they uſed to meet in the office where the tax was received: here the gameſters brought their furrs, and, when they had no furrs, even their ſlaves; and

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and ſometimes they played 'till both parties had pawned their cloaths for brandy. Such way of living, one may eaſily believe, was attended with great confuſion; but what the poor ſlaves ſuffered is almoſt incredible, being obliged ſometimes to change their maſters twenty times a day.

The invention of making ſpirits happened accidentally. The Coſſacks, after the manner of the natives, made a great proviſion of all kinds of berries for the winter. It happened ſometimes that they began to ferment in the ſpring, and could be uſed no other way than in drink. This drink was obſerved to cauſe drunkenneſs when taken in great quantities; upon which they began to diſtil it, and, to their great ſurpriſe and pleaſure, found that it produced a good ſpirit. They have ſince diſcovered that they could make brandy from an infuſion of the ſweet graſs, and now they have ſpirits in plenty. Their method of preparing this herb for diſtillery we have already explained.

Thoſe that are curious to know whence the Coſſacks ſettled here obtained their riches, muſt be informed that they owe them to the following circumſtances: firſt, when they conquered the natives they made all the plunder they could: ſecondly, every party of Coſſacks, that was employed in gathering the taxes, obliged each tributary native, beſides the crown tax, to give them four fox-ſkins and one ſable, which they divided among themſelves: thirdly, by their commerce with the natives, whom they obliged to pay a very high price for every trifle they furniſhed them with. Although, at preſent, the Coſſacks are forbidden to take any thing more than the crown tax, yet they are ſtill allowed to ſet what price they pleaſe upon their goods; and indeed they ſell them, or change them for furrs, at very great profits, and ſometimes for proviſions, nets, and boats. Without this they would not be able to live upon their ſmall pay, which is no more than what they uſed to receive at *Jakutſki*, and, both in money and proviſions, does not amount to above 14 rubles